

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 SSO-00 CCO-00

NSCE-00 USSS-00 AF-10 INRE-00 /157 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE JABAKER:DK

APPROVED BY EUR/EE JABAKER

NEA/ARN - EDJEREJIAN

EUR/P - MJERABEK

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P R 162136Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJECT: HUNGARY CHARGES US INVOLVED IN MIDDLE EAST WAR

REF: BUDAPEST 3457

SOFIA 1383

1. EUR/EE DIRECTOR BAKER TOOK KOLESZA ASIDE AT POLISH RECEPTION OCTOBER 15 AND, AFTER ESTABLISHING THAT AMBASSADOR SZABO NOT IN ATTENDANCE, TOLD KOLESZA THAT HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO EXPRESS SERIOUS US CONCERN OVER PUBLICATION IN MAGYAR HIRLAP OF CHARGE THAT US PLANES AND PILOTS TAKING PART IN BOMBING MISSIONS IN SYRIA. BAKER OBSERVED THAT PUBLICATION OF THIS UNFOUNDED CHARGE WAS DANGEROUS AND UNCONSTRUCTIVE AT A TIME WHEN ALL COUNTRIES SHOULD BE TRYING TO AVOID ESCALATION OF MIDDLE EAST FIGHTING AND INVOLVEMENT OF OUTSIDE POWERS. IT WAS BAD ENOUGH TO HAVE SOVIET SUPPLY OPERATION, WHICH HUNGARY WAS CLEARLY

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ASSISTING AND IT WOULD BE WORSE TO STIMULATE FURTHER

INVOLVEMENT BY PUBLISHING AS FACT UNFOUNDED ARAB CHARGES ABOUT US INVOLVEMENT WHICH MIGHT BE DESIGNED PRECISELY TO STIMULATE GREATER SOVIET INVOLVEMENT. BAKER STATED THAT US WOULD EXPECT STORY TO BE CORRECTED WITH US DENIAL.

2. AT EMBASSY'S DISCRETION, IT MAY MAKE USE OF INFORMATION IN SOFIA'S 1383. WHILE WE ARE NOT HAPPY WITH BULGARIAN PUBLICATION OF SYRIAN CHARGES, THEY AT LEAST MATCHED THE STORY WITH PUBLICATION OF OCTOBER 13 MCCLOSKEY DENIAL. KISSINGER

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